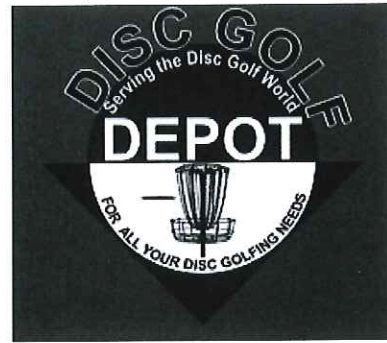


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OREGON OPERATIONS OFFICE

AUG 19 2016

EPA-REGION 10



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ATTN: Harbor Comments
805 SW Broadway
Suite 500
Portland, OR 97205

2487

I am the owner of Disc Golf Depot, a local sporting goods store that I have been involved with for 35 years, and I believe the plan to decontaminate the Willamette River would be terrible for the economy of Portland. For one thing, it is estimated to cost over a billion dollars, which local businesses and residents are going to have to pay for.

I can't afford to pay more, not with all the other taxes they're dumping on us. The Mayor of Portland already wants to raise business taxes 15%. How much will they have to go up to pay for this bloated cleanup plan? Is it going to be 20%? Is it going to be 25%? Either way, we are going to be feeling the hurt. These tax increases will hurt our bottom lines and force us to raise prices. I am so close to retirement that I would probably just close my business. I would be especially angry if I had a business on the waterfront. They are definitely going to lose customers as a result of the non-stop annoyance of heavy machinery.

The cleanup proposal isn't even based on current information; it ignores all the recent evidence that the river has filtered out more than a third of contaminants on its own. If this expensive plan can't be justified by the most recent data, it should be re-evaluated. That billion dollars would be much better spent repairing Portland's dilapidated sewage system. In any event, it is disgraceful to impose taxes and fees without even having a well-thought-out plan to make sure it is put to good use.

It is really easy to spend money you don't work for. All you have to do is wave your magic wand and get more money. It would be nice if we could all do that. In the private sector, we have to perform or we're going to be out of a job. If the EPA is going to ask Portland taxpayers to fund the cleanup, it needs to make sure its plan is as inexpensive and unobtrusive as possible.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

2410 SE 121st Ave #214 Portland, OR 97216